GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:433
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
PRODUCTION AND USE OF BANNED PESTICIDES
C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the fertilizers and pesticides have been continuously polluting the rivers, ocean and underground water;

(b) if so, the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to continue the production and use of the pesticides banned by many other countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the production and use of banned pesticides in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH P.PRABHU)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha StarredQuestion No.433 to be answered on 24.8.2000 asked by Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan

(a) & (b): Government is aware that excessive use of fertilizers may cause pollution of groundwater, however, the present level of fertilizer consumption in India is still lower than many developing countries and cannot be termed as excessive. Use of pesticides in the agricultural sector has inherent water run off problems which may lead to pollution of rivers, ocean and underground water. Keeping in view the global concern about the harmful impact of pesticides on environment, Government of India has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the over-all crop production programmewherein emphasis is laid on non-chemical and bio-pesticides. By promoting the concept of IPM, Government of India is promoting an eco-friendly approachwith minimal use of pesticides in the agricultural sector which is not likely to pose any problem of polluting the rivers, ocean and underground water.

(c) to (e): In India, production of pesticides is possible only after theyare registered under the Insecticides Act, 1968. The Registration Committee ensures that the pesticides which are banned in other countries are not registered normally except for some very specific molecules that do not pose any negative toxicological or environmental hazards under India agro-climatic conditions. In respect of ban on pesticides by other countries after they have been registered in India, the Government constitutes Expert Committees toreview the same for taking corrective action.